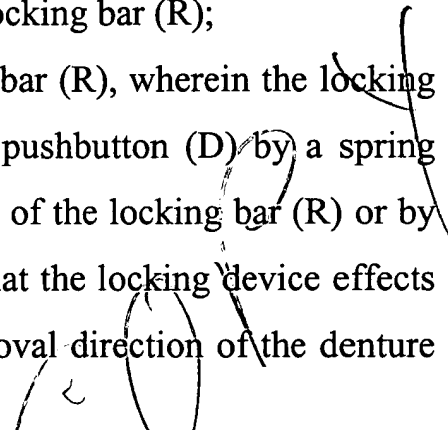


IN THE CLAIMS:

CLEAN VERSION OF THE AMENDED CLAIMS

19. (new) A connection element for the attachment of removable tooth dentures to crowns of teeth or tooth implants comprising
a fixedly seated element (S) formed at a tooth crown or a tooth implant;
a locking bar (R) supported slidable perpendicular to a removal direction of the denture;
a spring (F), wherein the locking bar (R) is guidable by the force of a spring (F) as seen from the removal direction of the denture under regions of a fixedly seated element (S) formed at a tooth crown or a tooth implant;
a pushbutton (D), wherein the locking bar (R) with its parts effective for the locking is removable again out of these regions against this spring force by actuation of a pushbutton (D) acting upon the locking bar (R);
a locking device (A) furnished for the locking bar (R), wherein the locking device (A) is movable upon actuation of the pushbutton (D) by a spring force acting in the direction of the shift motion of the locking bar (R) or by the motion of the locking bar (R) itself such that the locking device effects slight lifting of the connection element in removal direction of the denture through limit stop faces.



20. (new) A connection element for the attachment of removable tooth dentures to crowns of teeth or tooth implants comprising

- a fixedly seated element (S) formed at a tooth crown or a tooth implant;
- a locking device (A) to be placed on the fixedly seated element (S) and having a first limit stop face (6) and having a second limit stop face (14);
- a spring (F) supported by the locking device in a direction substantially perpendicular to a removal direction of the denture;
- a locking bar (R) supported slidable in the direction perpendicular to the removal direction of the denture and having a third limit stop face (15), wherein the third limit stop face (15) is alternatively engageable with the first limit stop face (6) and with the second limit stop face (14) and the wherein the locking bar (R) is guidable by the force of the spring (F);
- a pushbutton (D) acting upon the lockingbar (R), wherein the third limit stop face (15) of the locking bar (R) is engaged with the second limit stop face (6) when the pushbutton is depressed, wherein the third limit stop face (15) remains engaged with the second limit stop face (14) upon release of the push button (D), and wherein the third limit stop face (15) becomes engaged with the first limit stop face (6) upon placing of the locking device (A) onto the fixedly seated element (S), and
- wherein the locking device (A) is movable upon actuation of the pushbutton (D) in the direction of the third limit stop face (15) engaging the second limit stop face (14) against a force of the spring (F) such that the locking device (A) becomes slightly lifted in a removal direction of the denture.